

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract , on page 30, with the following amended Abstract:

A ~~multi-lumen catheter and~~ method for inserting ~~same~~ a multi-lumen catheter into a patient is disclosed. The catheter includes an elongated, central, multi-lumen tube portion having a proximal end and a distal end. ~~The central tube portion has a substantially cylindrical outer shape and is internally segmented into a plurality of lumens.~~ A distal branch portion includes a plurality of single-lumen distal extension tubes. ~~Each distal extension tube has a proximal first end and a distal second end.~~ The proximal first end of each distal extension tube is connected to the distal end of the central tube portion such that the single lumen of each distal extension tube is in fluid communication with one of the plurality of lumens of the central tube portion. A proximal branch portion includes a plurality of single-lumen proximal extension tubes. ~~Each proximal extension tube has a distal first end and a proximal second end.~~ The distal first end of each proximal extension tube is connected to the proximal end of the central tube portion such that the single lumen of each distal extension tube is in fluid communication with one of the plurality of lumens of the central tube portion. Each lumen of the central tube portion and the lumens of the distal and proximal extension tubes in fluid communication therewith define a flow path through the catheter. Selectively attachable hub connectors are provided for selective attachment to the distal extension tubes and connection of the catheter to a fluid exchange device.